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AGENDA

EQUIPMENT BOARD

Meeting No. 5-65

DATE : 15 July 1965

TIME : Following the General's Staff Meeting

PLACE : OC Conference Room
2D02 Hqs. Building

OLD BUSINESS

None

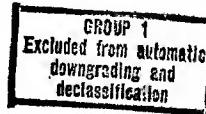
NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item No. 1:

Status and Plans for the RS-100
OC-E and OC-OS will brief the Equipment Board on
the present status of the RS-100 and on plans
for this set, both with regard to set recon-
figuration and development and procurement time-
tables.

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EQUIPMENT BOARD
MINUTES

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Meeting Number 5-65 of the Equipment Board was held on 15 July 1965 in the OC Conference Room, 2D03, Headquarters Building. Those present were:

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I. OLD BUSINESS

None

II. NEW BUSINESS

The sole agenda item was a briefing of the Equipment Board on the present status of the RS-100 and plans for this set, both with regard to set reconfiguration and future development/procurement plans.

1. Introduction

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a. [REDACTED] opened the meeting by reviewing the Recommendations portion of the minutes from Equipment Board meeting number 2-65 pertaining to the RS-100. The primary recommendation was that procurement of RS-100 radio sets be postponed from FY-65 to FY-66 and that cost advantages be realized through the placement of a single purchase order combining the funds programmed in both fiscal years for this purpose. The Equipment Board's recommendation was approved by [REDACTED] L. K. White.

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b. [REDACTED] displayed a service test model of the RS-100 radio set that had been developed jointly with ARPA. Under the terms of the joint development as interpreted against operational requirements of both CIA and ARPA, the set was developed primarily as a medium speed transmission capability with reception provision, synthesized frequency control and message preparation facilities all contained within one case. The case and all component assemblies were fabricated against stringent environmental specifications.

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c. [REDACTED] stated that it is the opinion of his staff that CTA applications of the RS-100 would be primarily in the manual CW mode. He further stated that para-military operational requirements as envisioned [REDACTED] in their requirements paper presented to the TRB have necessitated a reorientation of equipment design emphasis. This emphasis, with respect to equipment of the RS-100 class, consists of downgrading the medium speed mode as primary and substituting a voice transmission capability. This change of emphasis is with respect to CIA operational applications of the RS-100 equipment type. It does not reflect a change in the original ARPA medium speed concept which was similar to the 1963 CIA requirement and against which the RS-100 design was predicated.

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d. [REDACTED] displayed a mock-up of a new equipment tentatively nomenclatured the RS-101. This equipment, he explained, incorporates certain portions of the circuitry developed for the RS-100; however, the essential features of the unit are directed toward the provision of a unit more responsive to 1965 CIA requirements than is the RS-100, specifically the inclusion of an optimized voice transmission capability and the deletion of an integral medium speed transmission capability.

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e. [REDACTED] proposed to the Board that the joint ARPA/CIA RS-100 development program be considered as concluded, with ARPA and its customers free to proceed toward production if they wish. For CIA operational requirements, he proposed that the RS-101 development be completed and procurement of this latter unit be made in preference to the RS-100. He noted that productizing and fabrication lead times for either equipment would be similar - although the RS-101 would be considerably less expensive.

2. Discussion

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a. The changing CIA requirements for equipment of this type were discussed by various members attending the meeting both with respect to [REDACTED] present requirements and the recent history of equipment issue and use. Over the past years most para-military communications requirements were satisfied with the RS-1 manual CW radio set. Beginning in approximately 1962, CIA operations were occasionally mounted with medium speed equipment; including RS-1 sets modified for medium speed. This was only possible in those cases in which the radio circuit terminated in base stations equipped for medium speed reception. Operations involving the transfer of radio equipment to other countries were (and are) still tied to the RS-1 manual mode type of operation.

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b. During the ARPA/CIA development of the RS-100 beginning in 1963, a self contained transmitter/receiver assembly capable of transmission in either the manual or medium speed semi-automatic modes was considered desirable by ARPA because they intended to establish the necessary base station resources and desired the added security of the medium speed types of transmission. CIA was interested in an equipment of this type to replace the RS-1, stocks of which were dwindling. CIA applications of the equipment would be with manual CW for most tactical operations while the medium speed mode would be used in longer range reconnaissance operations, guerilla type activities and staff emergency evacuation situations. In each of the latter modes the medium speed transmissions would be received at already existing CIA base stations equipped for such reception.

25X1A c. With the recent detailing of their communications requirements, at OC request, [REDACTED] has added a new requirement category that in potential numbers of equipment necessary outweighs by far all other categories for tactical equipment.
25X1A The [REDACTED] requirement in its crudest terms requires equipment 25X1A for the following types of links:



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Examination of these new requirements indicates that no single equipment presently available is completely satisfactory for even a major portion of the links listed. The closest unit now under development by the military - but not expected to be available prior to 1970 is the AN/PRC-70 (2-76 mc; SSB, FM, AM, CW; 40 watts; 30 lbs.). The AN/PRC-70 in combination with the proposed RS-101 would satisfy most of the requirements listed for the boat, squad and platoon class links. The RS-101 alone would satisfy with varying degrees of effectiveness the same links with the exception of the 35-100 mile voice link at platoon level.

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d. The [redacted] requirement places heavy emphasis on voice transmissions and practically none on medium speed. When this is considered in conjunction with previous requirements for medium speed capabilities for guerilla, reconnaissance or staff emergency evacuation applications it becomes clear that the preponderance of present day CIA requirements can be most aptly met with a relatively light weight transmitter-receiver equipment specifically designed for operation in a voice mode with provisions for medium speed operation using external accessories. The size, weight, time and cost penalties resulting from attempting to expand the RS-100 design to encompass both medium speed and voice operation do not appear desirable.

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e. The Board noted that the AN/PRC-70 might be the most appropriate solution to the [redacted] requirement; but the AN/PRC-70 is too heavy for the most forward tactical elements and it may not become available until 1970. In the interim the RS-101 plus the RS-69 (becoming available during the Summer of 1965) and the ASR-100 (to become available late in 1965) would provide meaningful progress over the equipment used presently and in recent years i.e. the manual cw RS-1 or military equivalent AN/GRC-109.

f. The second point discussed in some detail was the production scheduling for the RS-101. The Board noted that funds are available in the FY-66 budget for the procurement of an RS-1 replacement and that RS-1 stocks are rapidly dwindling. Specific information from appropriate contractors was not available in a form permitting definitive conclusions to be reached.

3. Conclusions

The Equipment Board reached the following conclusions:

a. That the joint ARPA/CIA development program for the RS-100 has been completed.

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- b. That a production run of RS-100 sets will not be initiated against CIA requirements.
- c. That CIA operational requirements have changed over the past two years and may be better satisfied with a new set designed primarily for voice vice medium speed transmission but capable of both and using major portions of the original RS-100 design.
- d. That additional information is necessary to permit a Board decision concerning procurement timing, cost and quantity of the new set (RS-101).

4. Recommendations

- a. Complete development of the RS-101 on an accelerated basis.
- b. Obtain the production scheduling information necessary for consideration by the Equipment Board to determine our course of action for the remainder of FY-66.
- c. Present the required information to the Board for final decisions during a meeting to be scheduled as soon as necessary material is available.
- d. All recommended actions are to be executed by OC-E.

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Approval of Minutes

[REDACTED]
Secretary

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[REDACTED] Approval of Recommendations

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